Delhi and main trade union organisations i.e AITUC and CITU have boycotted it;

(b) whether it is also a fact that non-INTUC Central Trade Unions have challenged the verification proceedings and consultation were going on among themselves to evolve an agreed formula; and

(c) if so, what was the hurry in holding the Indian Labour Conference at this stage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) to (c) The 28th Session of the Indian Labour Conference is being held on the 25th and 26th November, 1985. The 27th Session of the Conference was held in 1971. The verification of membership as on 31-12-1980 of ten Central Trade Union Organisations (INTUC, BMS, HMS, UTUC(LS), NLO, UTUC, TUCC, NFITU, AITUC and CITU) was completed in August, 1984. Only AITUC and CITU did not participate in this verification. The verification was conducted and completed in accordance with the prescribed procedure, and the result was announced on 30-8-84. The representation of workers' organisations for the 28th Session was based on the criterion which was communicated to all concerned on 15-7-1983 and four Trade Union Organisations i.e. INTUC, EMS, HMS and UTUC(LS) were invited to nominate delegates. Three other Trade Union Organisations i.e. NLO, AITUC and CITU were invited as observers but the AITUC and CITU were not satisfied with observers status. It was represented to the Government that other Trade Union Organisations should also be given delegate representation on the ILC. The Government reconsidered the matter and decided that Trade Union Organisations having minimum verified membership of one lakh as on 30-12-80 other than those who have membership of more than 5 lakhs spread over four industries and four States may also be given some representation on the 28th Session of the Indian Labour Conference. Five Trade Union Organisaions *i.e.* NLO, UTUC, TUCC, AITUC and CITU have been allocated one delegate each for this Session in accordance with this decision.

Contract Labourers in Textile Mills in Ahmedabad

1097. SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over several thousands of workers have been employed as contract labourers in several textile mills in Ahmedabad including some nationalised textile mills;

(b) whether any study has been made by his Ministry in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details of the study; and

(d) whether any action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) 'Appropriate Government' in respect of the Textile Mills for the purpose of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 is the State Government. Accordingly, Government of Gujarat has been asked to furnish a report Information will be placed on the Table of the House after receipt of report from the State Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Unemployed youths

1098. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:
SHRI KISHOR MEHTA:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of unemployed youth in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that unemployment has increased at an alarming rate during the last one year; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to encourage labour intensive industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) The available information relates to the number of job-seekers on the live register of employment exchanges all of whom are not necessarily unemployed. The number of youth (15—29 years) on the live register of employment exchanges as on 31-12-84 was 202.5 lakhs (Provisional).

(b) The number of job-seekers on the live register rose from 219.5 at the end of 1983 to 235.5 lakhs at the end of 1984, representing an increase of 7.3 per cent.

(c) Under the centrally sponsored District Industries Centre Programme entire country excepting the Metropolitan towns of Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Lakshadweep Union Territory is covered. Under this programme State Governments provide every possible assistance to the entrepreneurs for setting up small cottage, tiny and village industries, including labour intensive industries. State Governments also assist the entrepreneurs in getting concessional finanace, power, accommodation and other essential inputs.

Per capita cloth off-take

1099. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the *per capita* cloth off-take in the country at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present *per capita* cloth off-take shows a decline in comparison to that of the previous year; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Per capita consumpion (off-take) of textiles, expressed in terms of cotton cloth in the country during the current year is estimated to be about 18.60 metres as against the corresponding figure of 17.33 metres for the last year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Security-free loans to entrepreneurs

1100. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: *Will the Minister of* FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of entrepreneurs who have been benefited from the scheme of Rs. 25,000 loan without any security during the year 1984-85;

(b) what is the number of beneficiaries under this scheme from Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints of corruption in implementing the scheme from Maharashtra or any other part of the country; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken against the bank employees involved in corrupt practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the scheme for providing self-employment to the educated unemployed youth which was introduced in the year 1983-84. During 1984-85, as per reports received from State/Union Territory Governments, 2.29 lakhs unemployed youths got benefit under the self-employment scheme and out of this 18.667 cases were sanctioned by the banks in Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) In a scheme which is being implemented on a large scale,